



State of Tennessee

Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations

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March 2004

The Honorable John S. Wilder
Speaker of the Senate

The Honorable Jimmy Naifeh
Speaker, House of Representatives

Members of the General Assembly

State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Transmitted herewith is the fourth in a series of reports on Tennessee's infrastructure needs by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) pursuant to Public Chapter 817, Acts of 1996. That act requires the TACIR to compile and maintain an inventory of infrastructure needed in Tennessee and present these needs and associated costs to the General Assembly during its regular legislative session. The inventory, by law, is designed to support the development by state and local officials of goals, strategies and programs to

- improve the quality of life of all Tennesseans,
- support livable communities,
- and enhance and encourage the overall economic development of the state through the provision of adequate and essential public infrastructure.

This report represents the TACIR's continuing efforts to improve the inventory, the primary example this year being coordination with the Department of Transportation to ensure that all projects in their inventory are included in the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory. This advance in coverage required considerable work on the part of staff of the nine development districts to ensure that there is no duplication between projects listed by DOT and those reported by local officials.

Information from the annual inventory has been used by the Comptroller's Office of Education Accountability to study high priority public schools identified by the Department of Education. Information on water and wastewater needs has been shared with staff of the Department of Environment and Conservation's grant programs. Future plans for reports include analysis of funding availability and location in relation to boundaries established under the Growth Policy Act (Public Chapter 1101, Acts of 1998) as required by Public Chapter 672, Acts of 2000.

Sincerely,

Representative Randy Rinks
Chairman

Harry A. Green, Ph.D.
Executive Director